

CureTB - Categories of Referrals:

A.- Suspects and verified tuberculosis cases:

These patients will be referred to the appropriate local health jurisdiction in the U.S. or Mexico for continuation of treatment. The referring jurisdiction should send a CureTB referral form (link) or call CureTB with information including:

- Locating information: address, phone number and emergency contacts in Mexico and in the U.S.
- Clinical information including AFB smear, culture, and susceptibility results, chest X-ray findings and treatment history. Please send results of pending culture reports to CureTB when available.

CureTB will notify the referring local health jurisdiction of the initial outcome within 30 days of referral. For those patients who are linked to care, the final outcome will be available within 12 months of referral.

Please note:

Diagnosis of pulmonary tuberculosis in Mexico is routinely done by direct smears only, follow-up smears are done monthly until the end of treatment.

MDR Tuberculosis patients: The availability of culture and sensitivity tests in Mexico varies according to region, resources and infrastructure; these tests are not routinely done. Treatment of MDR TB is generally based on a standardized regimen. Patients with MDR TB moving from the U.S. to Mexico will continue treatment according to Mexican guidelines; the regimen may vary from the one prescribed in the US.

B- Contact notification:

Only in the following categories will be accepted for referral:

- Individuals who are moving to Mexico and have been exposed to a verified smear positive pulmonary case in the U.S and are under 5 years of age or immunocompromised.
- Household contacts living in Mexico who were recently exposed to a pulmonary smear positive case diagnosed by your jurisdiction. Specific locating information for contacts in Mexico is required for notification.

CureTB will not provide outcomes for contact referrals.

Please note:

In Mexico, contacts to smear positive cases are evaluated by symptom review as a method of secondary case finding. **Only** contacts who are under 5 years of age or

immunocompromised are considered for testing and treatment of latent TB infection. Skin testing is not available in all areas.

C- Source Case Finding:

These referrals are for patients who are verified cases in the U.S for whom it is suspected that the source case is in Mexico. The referring jurisdiction should send the name and specific locating information of the suspected source case.

CureTB will notify the local health jurisdiction in Mexico of the possible source case. CureTB will provide an outcome to the referring jurisdiction within 60 days.

Please note:

In Mexico, the search for an index case varies according to region, based on the availability of personnel and infrastructure.

D- Past History Request:

These are suspects or verified cases in the U.S. who were on treatment in Mexico.

CureTB will request the past medical history and forward it to the referring provider or inform the referring provider if it is not available within 30 days.

Please note:

In Mexico, the keeping of records varies according to region, infrastructure and length of time. In the private sector, charts are not always kept.

E- LTBI treatment:

These referrals are for patients that are evaluated in the U.S and start LTBI treatment before they move to Mexico.

CureTB will not refer LTBI patients unless they meet the Mexican guidelines of eligibility.

Please note:

LTBI treatment in Mexico is prioritized to groups considered at high risk of developing disease:

- Asymptomatic contacts under 5 years of age, with or without previous BCG.
- Asymptomatic contacts between 5 and 14 years of age not vaccinated with BCG.
- Contacts with HIV infection or other conditions causing significant immunosuppression.

CureTB will not provide outcomes for LTBI referrals.